

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and all prior listings. Claims 10-13, 16, 35-38, 41, 48, and 49 are canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and Claims 1-9, 14, 15, 17-34, 39, 40, and 42-47 are amended as follows.

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1. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ A device for determining conditions for processing to be carried out on data in a file, by at least one input/output means which modulates a physical quantity, comprising:

means for determining ~~semantics of the processing~~ content of the data in the file; and

pilot configuration determination means adapted, without modifying the data, to take into account the ~~semantics of the processing~~ content of the data in the file for determining a configuration of a pilot of the input/output means designated to implement the processing.

2. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1, wherein:

the processing is carried out by at least two input/output means, and the pilot configuration used by the pilot configuration determination means includes selection of the input/output means intended to implement the processing.

~~3. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim claim 1~~

including:

C₁
means ~~of~~ for dialoguing with a user adapted to transmit questions to the user and to receive information from the user in response, and

Sub D₁ → wherein the pilot configuration determination means is also adapted to take into account the information received in response from the user in order to determine the pilot configuration.

4. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim claim~~ 3,

including a memory adapted to store information received in response from the user.

5. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim claim~~ 4, wherein

said memory is adapted to also store, associated with each item of information received, an item of information representing the user who supplied it.

6. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim claim~~ 4, wherein

said memory is adapted to also store, associated with each item of information received, an item of information representing a concerned document.

7. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim claim~~ 1,

including pilot updating means adapted for:

~~on the one hand to detect that a pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the processing is not available or is not up to date in a memory, and on the other hand, to read the pilot in another memory.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1, including:

means for checking an availability of input/output means adapted to transmit an item of information representing unavailability for the processing of the data, when the means intended to process the data is not available for this purpose; and

the pilot configuration determination means is adapted to take into account the unavailability information in order to determine a configuration of another input/output means for implementing the processing of the data.

9. (Currently Amended) A device ~~for determining conditions of processing to be carried out on data of a document, by at least one input/output means which uses a physical quantity, comprising~~

~~quantity determination means for determining at least two quantities related to the document;~~

~~means for estimating content of the document adapted to take into account each of the at least two quantities, and~~

~~pilot configuration determination means adapted to take into account the
content of the document in order to determine a configuration of the pilot of the input output
means intended to implement the processing~~

according to claim 1 wherein the means for determining the contents of the
data takes into account each of at least two quantities related to the data.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein
~~the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the quantities represents a number of~~
~~pages in the a document represented by the document data.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein
~~the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the quantities represents a number of~~
~~digital information items in the document data.~~

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein
~~the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the quantities represents a degree of~~
~~compression to be obtained on the document data using predetermined compression software.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the quantities represents a period of time necessary for compression of the ~~document~~ data, by predetermined compression software.

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19. (Currently Amended) The device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, including a determination means ~~of~~ for determining parts of the ~~document~~ data, wherein:
the determination means is adapted to determine at least two quantities relating to each of the parts,
the content estimation means is adapted to estimate content of each of the parts, taking into account each quantity relating to the part, and
the pilot configuration determination means is adapted to take into account content of the part in order to determine the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the processing on the part.

20. (Currently Amended) A printer having a device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1.

21. (Currently Amended) A facsimile machine, having a device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1.

22. (Currently Amended) A modulator-demodulator, having a device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1.

~~23. (Currently Amended) A display screen, having a device according to~~

~~Claim claim 1.~~

24. (Currently Amended) A photographic apparatus, having a device according to Claim claim 1.

25. (Currently Amended) A camera having an image sensor, including a device according to Claim claim 1.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of determining conditions for processing to be carried out on data in a file, by at least one input/output means which modulates a physical quantity, comprising:

a step₁ of determining ~~semantics of the processing~~ content of the data in the file; and

a pilot configuration determination step ~~during which, without modifying the data, the semantics of the processing of the data is taken into account, of determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means designated to implement the processing, which, without modifying the data takes into account the content of the data in the~~ file.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 26, wherein:

~~the processing is carried out by at least two input/output means, and~~
the pilot configuration determination step includes a step of selecting of
the input/output means intended to implement the processing.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 26,
including:
an operation step₁ of dialoguing with a user during which questions are
transmitted to the user and information is received from the user in response, and
wherein the pilot configuration determination step also includes taking
into account the information received in response from the user in order to determine the pilot
configuration.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 28,
including a storage step₁ of storing information received in a response from the user.

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 29,
wherein said storage step also includes associating, with each item of information received, an
item of information representing the user who supplied it.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 29,
wherein said storage step also includes associating, with each item of information received, an
item of information representing a concerned document.

~~32. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 26,~~

including a pilot updating step during which:

on the one hand detecting that a pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the processing is not available or is not up to date in a memory, and
on the other hand, the pilot is read in another memory.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 26,

including:

checking availability of the input/output means during which an item of information representing unavailability for the processing of the data is transmitted, when the means intended to process the said data is not available for this purpose; and

during the determining step, taking into account the unavailability information in order to determine the configuration of another input/output means able to implement the processing of the data.

34. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of determining conditions of a~~

~~processing to be carried out on data of a document, by at least one input/output means which uses a physical quantity, comprising:~~

~~a quantity determination step of determining at least two quantities related to the document;~~

~~a step of estimating content of the document, taking into account each quantity;~~

~~and~~

~~a configuration determination step of, during which the content of the document is taken into account, determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the processing~~

according to claim 26, wherein at least two quantities related to the data are taken into account during the step of determining the contents of the data.

35-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 38 34, wherein ~~during the quantity determination step~~, one of the quantities represents a number of pages in ~~the~~ a document represented by the ~~document~~ data.

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 34, wherein ~~during the quantity determination operation~~, one of the quantities represents a number of digital information items in the ~~document~~ data.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~Claims~~ claim 34, wherein ~~during the quantity determination step~~ one of the quantities represents a degree of compression to be obtained on the ~~document~~ data by using predetermined compression software.

~~43. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 34,~~
wherein during the quantity determination step one of the quantities represents a time necessary
for compression of the document data, by predetermined compression software.

44. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claims claim 34 26,
including a step of printing the document data.

45. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 34 26,
including a step of compressing the data representing the document data.

46. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 34 26,
including a step of determining parts of the document data and, for each of the parts, performing:
a step of determining at least two quantities related to the part,
a step of estimating content of the part, taking into account each quantity
related to the part, and
a configuration determination step of, during which the content of the part is
taken into account, determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means intended
to implement the processing on the part.

47. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim claim 46,
wherein during the part determination step, pages of the document data are determined.

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~~48, 49. (Cancelled)~~